

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**
3535 S. Sherwood Forest Boulevard, Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA

March 15, 2011

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lawrence Callender, Terry Louque, Don Thompson, Alvin Bargas, John Brass, Russell Cornette, Willie George Lee, Anthony Rouchon, Randolph Saucier, Jerry Thibeau, Larry Thomas, Dale Zuelke

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joel Louque

ALSO PRESENT: Dietmar Rietschier, Executive Director
Toni Guitrau, Executive Secretary
Larry Bankston, Attorney

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Callender.

2. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

3. Minutes

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Rouchon second by Thompson to approve the February 2011 meeting minutes as presented.

4. Financial Statement Report

T. Louque presented to the Board the February 2011 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Lee, second by Cornette to approve the February 2011 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.

5. Report by Executive Director

- Presented the status of the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.
- Mr. Rietschier is in process of preparing documents to advertise for bids to demolish the building at 18851 Plank Road, which ARBC acquired as part of the right-of-way needed for the La. Hwy. 67 Bridge.
- Discussed Flood Awareness Month and options for public awareness.

6. ARBC Legal Counsel Report – Old Business

- Mr. Bankston presented a draft Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the LA DOTD and ARBC which outlines the responsibilities of each agency. The LA DOTD will review it before it is presented to the Commission for official action. Approximately \$14.6 million is being returned to the DOTD from the USACE. These funds will go toward contracts, and buying property in order to start moving forward more quickly on the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.
- Presented samples of Request for Proposals (RFP) and Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to the Commissioners. Mr. Bankston will prepare a draft RFP or FRQ for the next meeting outlining the services being required by the ARBC. The draft will be for the review and final action of the Board. After proposals are received and scored, it will be the decision of the Board to issue a ‘task order’ contract.
- Discussed options of developing set procedures on posting and managing ARBC land in regard to security issues, hunting leases, etc. Leasing the land would be beneficial toward alleviating security issues. Bid notices would be required in order to lease the property. Bankston reminded the Board that the agreement with the USACE is that property must be purchased for mitigation. Part of the Lilly Bayou area is anticipated for mitigation and will need to be maintained. Bankston reported that EBRP DPW has discussed

purchasing dirt from the Lilly Bayou area for their landfill. Callender stated that Mr. Rietschier is also working on qualifying the dirt for USACE projects.

- Discussed pending litigation matters. Bankston drafted legislation that will hopefully fix problems caused by Act 734. This draft was sent to local legislators for their consideration.
- Roll call was taken on whether to change the time of the ARBC regular monthly meetings. Final vote was to keep the time of the regular monthly meetings at 6 p.m. Votes were as follows:
 YEAS: Lawrence Callender, Terry Louque, Don Thompson, Alvin Bargas, John Brass, Russell Cornette, Willie George Lee, Anthony Rouchon, Randolph Saucier, Jerry Thibeau, Larry Thomas, Dale Zuelke
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Joel Louque
 ABSTAIN: None

7. New Business

- Proclaimed April as Flood Awareness Month
- Reminded the Commissioners to file Financial Disclosure Statements, Tier 2.1 by May 15, 2011 with the La. Board of Ethics.
- Finance Committee: Lawrence Callender, Don Thompson, Terry Louque, Jerry Thibeau. Committee members will be notified by the secretary of possible meeting dates to discuss the amended and proposed budgets.

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Cornette to adjourn the meeting.

APPROVED:

/s/ Lawrence Callender
Lawrence Callender, ARBC President

/s/ Toni Guitrau
Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary

Date: April 19, 2011